

Rules for Grand Canyon Council Pinewood Derby

The official car of the Pinewood Derby is the Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Racing Car. The car is available singly or in 8-packs and can be purchased at any distributor of Official Boy Scout supplies. Each car must pass inspection by the Official Inspection Committee before it may compete. The inspection committee has the right to disqualify any car which does not meet specifications. In the event of a disagreement over qualifications of any car, the Chief Inspector will settle the dispute and his/her decision will be final. Lack of knowledge of the official rules will not be considered a valid argument for non-compliance. Acceptance into a Pinewood Derby Race does not automatically denote acceptance into the Council Pinewood Derby Race. All entrants must comply with all of the rules, or they will be disqualified. Cars not meeting the specifications will be allowed to modify the car to meet the qualifications prior to registration. In the event a car is discovered to be in violation of a rule after racing begins, the car will not be allowed to continue racing, and will be disqualified.

1. General

- A. The rules in effect for the Grand Canyon Council Pinewood Derby are intended to maintain the competition at a level at which most boys are capable of achieving with minimal adult intervention.
- B. In order to qualify for racing, car must be made with the entire Official Pinewood Derby Kit as supplied, including wheels, axles, and woodblock. BSA imprint must be visible on wheels.
- C. Car must be the same car that was used in the District and/or Pack Pinewood Derby.

2. Weight and Appearance

- A. Total weight of car may not exceed 5 ounces. The car may be hollowed out and built up to the maximum weight by the addition of wood or metal only, provided that it is securely built into the body of the car or firmly affixed to it.
- B. No loose materials of any kind are permitted in or on the car. No mercury-weighted cars will be allowed.
- C. Details such as steering wheel, driver, decals, or painting are allowed, as long as these details do not cause the car to exceed the maximum weight, length, and width.
- D. All cars may be re-weighed and/or re-inspected at any time for cause, which shall be at the sole discretion of the Chief Judge.

3. Length and Width

- A. Overall width shall not exceed $2 \frac{3}{4}$ inches at the furthest horizontal protrusion, whether it is the body of the car or the wheels. The area where the axles are inserted should be approximately $1 \frac{3}{4}$ inches wide to ensure that the wheels will fit over the guide strip on the track.
- B. Overall length of the car (measured from the furthest point forward to the furthest point rearward) shall not exceed 7 inches.
- C. The wheelbase (distance between the centers of the front and rear axles) must measure between $4 \frac{1}{4}$ and $4 \frac{5}{8}$ inches.
- D. It is not required to place the axles (nails) into the slots which have been pre-cut in the woodblock, however, please read rule 3C carefully, as the modifications are VERY limited.
- E. The underside of the front of the car may not be undercut to allow the car's nose to hang out over the top of the starting gate. If the nose protrudes over the starting gate and the official starter is not able to adjust for a fair start, the protruding car will not be allowed to race.

4. Lubrication

- A. Cars may be lubricated before registration. Cars may not be lubricated after inspection by the judges. Violation will result in ejection from the race. Re-lubrication will be permitted just prior to the FINALS.
- B. Any type of dry lubricant is permitted. Graphite is highly recommended.

5. Wheels and Axles

- A. No alteration, narrowing, lathe cutting, or re-shaping of wheels (inside or outside) is allowed. Light sanding of wheel treads to remove irregularities is permissible. The minimum wheel diameter allowable is 1.170 inches. No covers, stickers, or hubcaps will be allowed over the wheels or axles. The axle head must be visible. The serrated edges of the wheel treads must remain visible.
- B. Only the official wheels and axles as provided in the official car kits or the official wheel and axle kits may be used.
- C. Wheel bearings, spacers, and washers are prohibited.
- D. The car shall not ride upon any type of springs.
- E. All cars must have four wheels. Three of the wheels must be touching the track surface at all times.
- F. The car must be free-wheeling with no starting or launching devices.
- G. In order for the car to avoid scraping the bottom against the guide strip of the track, it should have 3/8" clearance underneath.

6. General Rules

- A. Numbers will be assigned and affixed at registration. The official number shall be clearly marked and visible at all times.
- B. No one will be allowed beyond the registration area and into the area immediately surrounding the track except the officials and the Scouts racing. Those areas will be designated as "restricted".
- C. Each heat will be announced. Drivers will report to the starting line and give their car to the Official Starter who will place the cars carefully upon the track. All other persons will remain behind the barrier and will not obstruct the view of other spectators.
- D. The Official Starter will make sure that the cars are on the track properly, and then will start the race. He/she will be the judge of whether the cars are properly aligned on the track, which cars are to race, and in which lane, and of all matters in the starting area. He/she will also be the judge of "false starts".
- E. Four to eight cars will race at a time. Each race will be judged by a minimum of two Finish Line Judges. The judges must agree that the race was fair and without incident.
- F. Volunteer judges may be used. Volunteer judges shall not judge any race in which they have a family member racing.
- G. Racers arriving late (after the start of the next rank group); the Chief Judge may allow participation if time permits at the end of the next rank group.

7. Repairs

- A. There will be an official Pit Area for repairs and alterations. If the car does not qualify at Registration, alterations may be made by the racer and the adult(s) with whom they came.
- B. Repairs will be permitted after racing begins but shall take place in the official pit area under the direct supervision of the Chief Judge or his/her designee. It is highly recommended that racers bring their own spare parts.
- C. The official in charge of the pit area will be the judge of what repairs are necessary and allowable. If wheels or axles are replaced, only those wheels or axles actually replaced may be lubricated.
- D. If a racer requires repairs, his races will be delayed until such time that his car is repaired, or he withdraws. Other races within the same "flight" will continue while repairs are made. In no case will the racing be delayed more than 2 minutes awaiting repairs. If after the general racing has been delayed for 2 minutes, and no other races are possible, the racer will be called to race, and upon his failure to report to the starting line at this time, he will forfeit. Again, it is highly recommended that each racer bring spare parts and materials for repairs.
- E. The Chairman accepts no responsibility for the dissemination of these rules or the lack of knowledge thereof. Any problems regarding the lack of understanding or knowledge of the rules will be disregarded and will have no bearing upon any decisions of the Chief Judge or the Chairman.